

# TECHNICAL MEMORANDUM


Utah Coal Regulatory Program

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November 7, 2007

TO: Internal File

THRU: Pamela Grubaugh-Littig, Permit Supervisor 

FROM: Wayne H. Western, Team Lead *WHW*

RE: North Lease Incidental Boundary Change, Canyon Fuel Company LLC, Skyline Mine, Permit C/007/0005 and Task ID #2874

## SUMMARY:

On June 20, 2007, the Division received an application for the Skyline Mine to expand the permit area by 680 acres. The Permittee wants to increase the permit area to allow for changes in the longwall panels and to be able to mine some blocks of coal by room and pillar methods. The Permittee will not increase any surface disturbance in conjunction the permit expansion.

On October 30, 2007, the Division received additional information for the North Lease Incidental Boundary Change. In response to Task 2813, the Permittee supplied information to correct the deficiencies that the Division found in the June 20, 2007 application. This memo deals with the engineering aspects.

**TECHNICAL MEMO**

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**TECHNICAL ANALYSIS:**

**GENERAL CONTENTS**

**ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCE INFORMATION**

Regulatory Reference: Pub. L 95-87 Sections 507(b), 508(a), and 516(b); 30 CFR 783., et. al.

**PERMIT AREA**

Regulatory Requirements: 30 CFR 783.12; R645-301-521.

**Analysis:**

The Permittee met the requirements of this section. In Section 114 of the MRP, the Permittee updated permit area and total acreage.

**Findings:**

The information provided in the proposed amendment is considered adequate to meet the requirements of this section.

**MAPS, PLANS, AND CROSS SECTIONS OF RESOURCE INFORMATION**

Regulatory Reference: 30 CFR 783.24, 783.25; R645-301-323, -301-411, -301-521, -301-622, -301-722, -301-731.

**Analysis:**

**Permit Area Boundary Maps**

The Permittee met the requirements of this section. They showed the updated permit boundaries on several maps including Drawing 1.6-3, Skyline Mines Permit Area.

**Findings:**

The information provided in the proposed amendment is considered adequate to meet the requirements of this section.

## **OPERATION PLAN**

### **MINING OPERATIONS AND FACILITIES**

Regulatory Reference: 30 CFR 784.2, 784.11; R645-301-231, -301-526, -301-528.

#### **Analysis:**

The Permittee met the requirements of this section. The Permittee described that they want to add 680 acres due to changes in the longwall configuration and to mine additional coal with room-and-pillar methods.

The Permittee will not cause any new surface disturbance or increase the area of proposed subsidence.

#### **Findings:**

The information provided in the proposed amendment is considered adequate to meet the requirements of this section.

### **COAL RECOVERY**

Regulatory Reference: 30 CFR 817.59; R645-301-522.

#### **Analysis:**

The Permittee met the requirements of this section. The Permittee will increase the amount of recoverable coal by including the fee area. In the future, the Permittee may have to change the R2P2 because of changes to mining in federal coal.

#### **Findings:**

The information provided in the proposed amendment is considered adequate to meet the requirements of this section.

**TECHNICAL MEMO**

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**SUBSIDENCE CONTROL PLAN**

Regulatory Reference: 30 CFR 784.20, 817.121, 817.122; R645-301-521, -301-525, -301-724.

**Analysis:**

**Renewable Resources Survey**

The Permittee met the requirements of this section by showing the renewable resources on various maps within the MRP.

**Subsidence Control Plan**

The Permittee met the requirements of this section. The Permittee states that subsidence will not occur within the 680 acre IBC boundary. Therefore, the current subsidence plan is adequate.

**Findings:**

The information provided in the proposed amendment is considered adequate to meet the requirements of this section.

**MAPS, PLANS, AND CROSS SECTIONS OF MINING OPERATIONS**

Regulatory Reference: 30 CFR Sec. 784.23; R645-301-512, -301-521, -301-542, -301-632, -301-731, -302-323.

**Analysis:**

**Affected Area Maps**

The Permittee met the requirements of this section. The Permittee included several maps in the application that show the permit and affected areas. Such maps include Drawing 1.6-3, Skyline Mines Permit Area.

### **Mine Workings Maps**

The Permittee met the requirements of this section. Drawing 2.2.7-7, Abandoned Adjacent Workings, shows the location of the Winter Quarters Mine and the Trespass Mine as well as the Skyline Mine workings.

### **Certification Requirements**

The Permittee met the requirements of this section. The Permittee had Drawing 2.2.7-7, Abandoned Adjacent Workings, certified by a licensed professional engineer.

### **Findings:**

The information provided in the proposed amendment is considered adequate to meet the requirements of this section.

## **RECLAMATION PLAN**

### **GENERAL REQUIREMENTS**

Regulatory Reference: PL 95-87 Sec. 515 and 516; 30 CFR Sec. 784.13, 784.14, 784.15, 784.16, 784.17, 784.18, 784.19, 784.20, 784.21, 784.22, 784.23, 784.24, 784.25, 784.26; R645-301-231, -301-233, -301-322, -301-323, -301-331, -301-333, -301-341, -301-342, -301-411, -301-412, -301-422, -301-512, -301-513, -301-521, -301-522, -301-525, -301-526, -301-527, -301-528, -301-529, -301-531, -301-533, -301-534, -301-536, -301-537, -301-542, -301-623, -301-624, -301-625, -301-626, -301-631, -301-632, -301-731, -301-723, -301-724, -301-725, -301-726, -301-728, -301-729, -301-731, -301-732, -301-733, -301-746, -301-764, -301-830.

### **Analysis:**

The Permittee met the requirements of this section. The Permittee will not cause any new surface disturbance with the addition of the 680 acres. Therefore, the Permittee does not have to modify the existing reclamation plan.

### **Findings:**

The information provided in the proposed amendment is considered adequate to meet the requirements of this section.

### **BONDING AND INSURANCE REQUIREMENTS**

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**TECHNICAL MEMO**

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Regulatory Reference: 30 CFR Sec. 800; R645-301-800, et seq.

**Analysis:**

**General**

The Permittee met the requirements of this section. Since the Permittee will not be doing any new surface disturbance in association with the 680 acre IBC the amount needed to insure reclamation in the event of a bond forfeiture.

**Findings:**

The information provided in the proposed amendment is considered adequate to meet the requirements of this section.

**RECOMMENDATIONS:**

The Division should approve the application.